european counter network
LONDON

contraFLOW

#9 - JULY 1994
donations keep us
FREE

• **This is the new Contraflow format _ Smaller, sexier and groovier**

We printed 3000 copies of this to just give away free to anyone who looks even the vaguest bit interested. We have also geared the contents (for this issue at least) to London, because we know there is a genuine political alternative in the Capital with it's own potential and momentum that *isn't* the Labour Party or Lefties, or Greenies, or whatever but is the people and groups we write about in the pages of Contraflow. As if to hammer the point home, we've even added some new features to the paper - there's the Calendar encouraging you to pick a grudge and get stuck in. There's also a list of London groups that we think are useful and worth chatting to.

DO US A FAVOUR !

We want to put this out at least bi-monthly but we know that's a fuck of a job, so this is how you can help.

DISTRIBUTION - If we can get people willing to take bundles of **Contraflow** for their area of London (colleges, libraries, gigs, demos, workplaces, launderettes etc) then our task is made **easier** .

You can pick 10, 20, 50 copies of Contraflow up from :

- **121 Books**, 121 Railton Road, Brixton, SE24 on W,T,F,Sat 1-5pm (071-274-6655)
- **56a Infoshop**, 56 Crampton St, Elephant and Castle,SE17 on M,Th,F from 3-7pm

Or just write and we'll arrange it somehow. Single issues of C/F are available direct to your letterbox on a one stamp = one issue basis, 2 for 2 etc.

NEWS and DATES - we want to know what's going on, what you're doing whether it's strikes, squats, riots, rent strikes, sex, slander and libellous gossip. We also want dates for the Calendar, so if your picketing your local bastards, organising a streetparty (with molotovs), putting on a benefit gig, jumble sale, kamikaze action against the cops, then post or fax it to us.

SKINT - We don't get paid to do this nor do we have trust funds to finance Contraflow. We just work hard at getting the cash together If you like us, then send us money. Send us cash, cheques (made payable to A.HODSON) and ripped-off stuff eg, faxes, laser printers.

ELECTRONIC CONTRAFLOW -Yep! you can use a computer to access Contraflow on the **Fast Breeder Bulletin Board.** You'll find all the files from the latest issue plus other longer stuff that didn't make it in and maybe much else too from the wacky Fast Breeder crew and cohorts. Their modem number is currently **071-820-8339** but it's changing soon to **071-501-0126**. You can use baud rates up to 14400 baud and connect anytime, 24 hours a day. If this sounds interesting but you don't know what the fuck we're talking about contact: FAST BREEDER, BM JED, LONDON. WC1N 3XX for an explanation.

• You can e-mail us at - **woodl@UK.AC.LSE** (mark "for Attn:56a Infoshop") until October 1994.

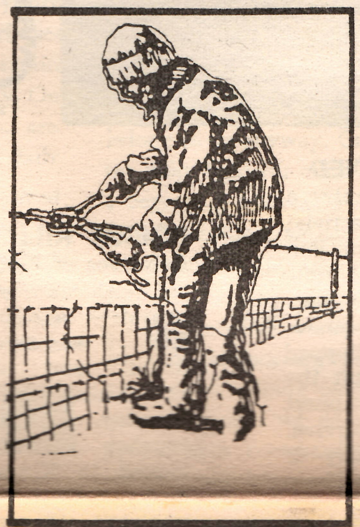
DETAINEES STRIKE BACK

Over 200 immigration detainees, asylum seekers from third world countries imprisoned while their case is investigated, went on hunger strike in March to protest at the brutal treatment dealt out to them and to demand that they be freed while their cases go on, and that the racist imprisonment of asylum seekers be halted. Many detainees have been held for over a year without any news of their case, pushed around and subject to the usual restrictions of prisoners. Detainees are almost by definition black and poor - you don't get many refugees buying their way into Britain as millionaires have been doing for years. Tighter restrictions are being imposed on refugees all over Europe: Britain as usual is at the forefront of the closing of the borders.The main action took place at **Campsfield Detention Centre** in Kidlington near Oxford, where 180 plus detainees mainly from Zaire, Algeria and Ghana started the strike early in March. Others joined in at Harmondsworth Detention centre near Guildford (over 70 went on strike), Winson Green Prison In Birmingham, Exeter and Pentonville Prisons and elsewhere.

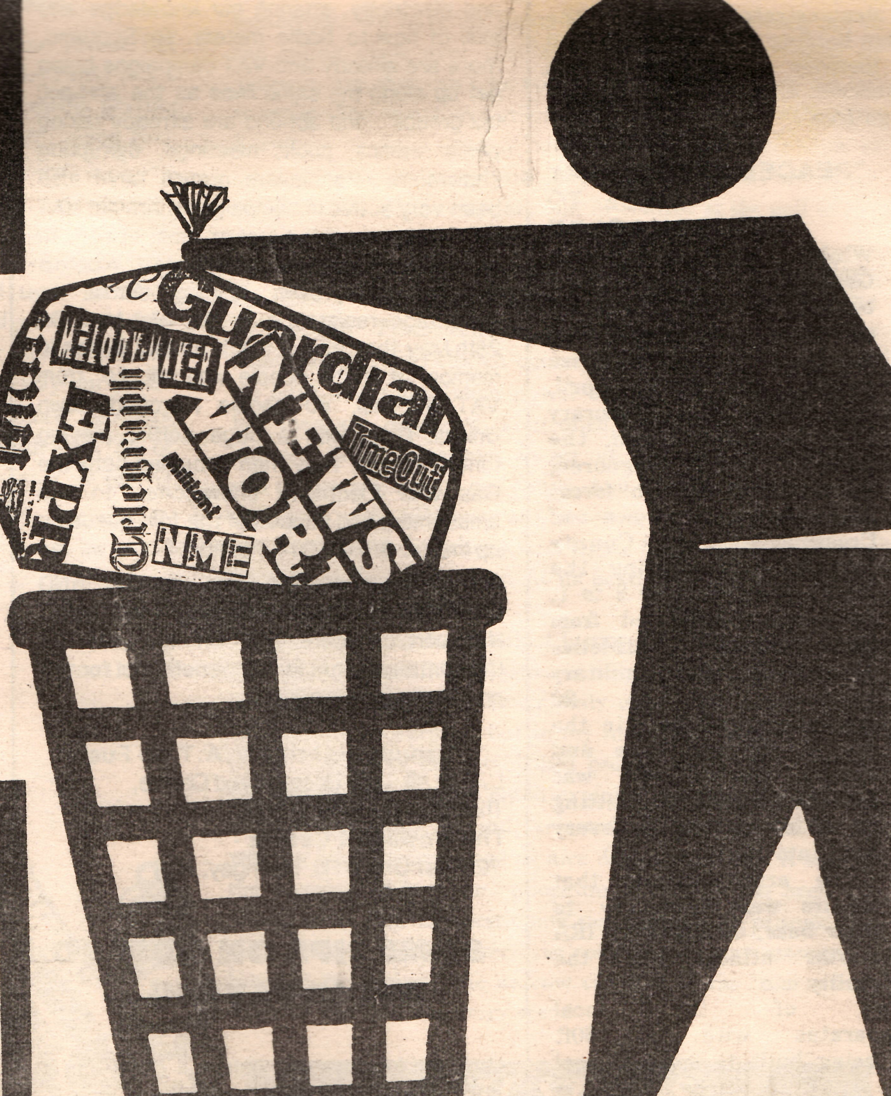
Concentration Campsfield

Campsfield was opened in 1993 and is run by Group 4 - for profit. The authorities there tried to break the strike in the time-honoured manner of the prison system. Several detainees were released, some were promised release if they gave up the strike, others were moved to prisons. They also harassed strikers at night, kept them under constant surveillance, tried to tempt them with plates of food, isolated some within the camp, hassled visitors, and finally moved seriously ill inmates to hospitals where some were force-fed. This didn't pass without opposition though. A local campaign against Campsfield formed in solidarity with the detainees and supporting their demands. They held regular demonstrations at the Centre: at one, 40 hunger strikers held a roof top protest. A demo of 150 people on the 26th March, saw activists lock the gates on the Group 4 security men (who threatened them with arrest for false imprisonment, haha!), scale fences and hang banners on them, occupy a compound and small building on the Centre's grounds. (It seems Group 4 were as slack at stopping them getting in as they usually are at stopping their prisoners getting away!) Several demonstrators were roughed up by security guards. Later demos have seen police hold people for being a threat to public order, and move them on for trespass. Although most of the hunger strikers had called it off by the end of March, the struggle is carrying on. Only a few in fact achieved their release. There are still some individual hunger strikes continuing.

Day Of Action



On April 30th there was a day of action in solidarity against immigration detentions. 200 people picketed Campsfield, and there were also demos at Harmondsworth, Winson Green (100 people), Pentonville Prison (30 people, mainly Zaireans - Pentonville, incidentally, is where Zairean detainee Omasase Lumumba was killed by screws in October 1991), Canterbury Prison, and Brixton Prison, where there were 20 people, including a detainee released from Wandsworth two days before after a year inside.



JUNE 4TH/5TH: A national demo at Campsfield on Saturday 4th June saw 300 people from all round the country show their solidarity with the detainees there, despite the pissing rain. This time round Group 4 guards went up on the roof of the Centre themselves to prevent any inmates getting up there (or were they protesting about pay and conditions ?). However, the following day, Sunday 5th June, a rumour spread through the Centre that an Algerian detainee was about to be deported. This led to protests which developed into a small riot involving quite a few of the inmates, who did £20,000 worth of damage to the centre. No-one was seriously injured. In the midst of this disturbance, 6 detainees escaped over the fence, 5 of who are still at large at time of writing! Nice one. 20 of the detainees said to be involved in the riot were shipped out to other prisons the next day.

It's been reported that Pentonville Prison will no longer take imprisoned asylum-seekers, but a new detention centre is to be opened on an old site in Rochester. Immigration act detentions are increasing - they are now up to 200 a month. With a climate of 'cracking down on crime', racist scapegoating of black and asian communities for the state of misery we live in is being stepped up. The hunger strike is a good start to resistance to this trend solidarity and action needs to be stepped up in response. Get involved.

Campaign Against Immigration Act Detentions
c/o Migrant Support Unit,
6-20 St John's Mews, London,
WC1N 2XN. *Tel 071 916 1646*

Campaign Against Campsfield
c/o 111 Magdalen Rd, Oxford.
Tel 0865 724452 /7 22357

contraFLOW
c/o 56a Infoshop, 56 Crampton St, London SE17 U.K
Fax 071-326-0353 e-mail: woodl@uk.ac.lse (until Oct)

• BOSNIAaaaargh!

The mere name is almost enough to make people turn off, with feelings of horror and impotence. Yes we know that Serbia and Croatia are trying to carve the place up, with armed terror, mass rape, ethnic cleansing, with 200,000 Bosnians dead and half a million refugees. The UN sit there, enforcing an arms embargo on Bosnia (Serbia having nearly all of the arms of the former Yugoslav army) stopping Bosnian use of the airport at Tuzla, and hoping to force some kind of agreed carve-up against the wishes of the vast majority of Bosnians, including ethnic Croats, Serbs as well as Muslims.

But what do we do about it? ***International Workers' Aid for Bosnia*** is at least doing something, getting in convoys of aid to the people of Tuzla, an ethnicly mixed, mainly mining town holding out against agression. This isn't just aid, its solidarity, its letting people in struggle know that others take some interest. In the 1984/5 miners strike here, the Tuzla miners gave up a day's pay a month to send to the strike fund. Solidarity is meant to be mutual.

We have problems with their politics, which there ain't room to go into, but they're getting aid and solidarity through from all over Europe. So send money, offers of help (collecting on a stall, or maybe driving a truck from Split to Tuzla) queries to **IWAB** c/o 12-14 Thornton Street, London SW9 0BL (not to be confused with the split-off IWAB controlled by the WRP).

resist to exist

EDINBURGH CENTRE OCCUPIED

Edinburgh Unemployed Worker's Centre, a venue for various community and activist groups working on dole issues, anti-Poll Tax, anti-VAT fuel, aswell as a cafe, info-bookshop and meeting space, has been occupied by the people who use the place, after the local Labour council chopped their lease. It's become obvious that the council wants the place evicted so support is vital if the Centre is going to survive. The place has an amazing history of community organising and self-help solutions for working class people. That it should be axed by local bureaucrats/tossers is an disgrace. E.U.W.C says "*The Centre Stays Open*" - get up their folks and help their struggle.

The Centre,
103 Broughton St, Edinburgh.
(031-557-0718)

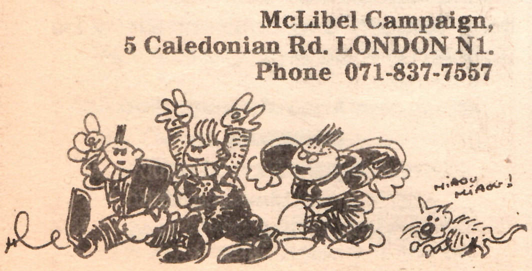
POLICE KILL IRISH MAN

Relatives of Richard O'Brien, a 37 year old Irish man, are convinced that police brutality was the cause of his death. Richard was arrested for allegedly being drunk and disorderly outside a christening celebration on Easter Monday. Taken to Walworth Road copshop where he collapsed, he was moved to Kings College Hospital but pronounced dead. The following weekend, 100 protesters led by Richard's relatives, demonstrated outside the police station holding a banner that read "In loving memory of Richard O'Brien RIP; an innocent man is dead but will the guilty go free".

- REPEAT AFTER US... McDONALDS ARE LIARS

The case of two activists from the independent London Greenpeace collective who are being sued by McDonalds for libel after distribution of the internationally known leaflet "What's Wrong With McDonalds", has started at the High Court on June 27th. The case is obviously going to be the usual judicial fix with evidence being disallowed and the ridiculous decision not to let a jury judge the case. However, in a fucked up turn of events, McDonalds issued a leaflet to their customers calling the McLibel 2 "liars" before the case had even begun. The McLibel 2 have issued a counter-claim for libel against McDonalds. Wacky eh ? We wish all the best to the defendents, Dave and Helen and implore people with energy to get involved and help them out with court monitoring, publicity, demos etc.

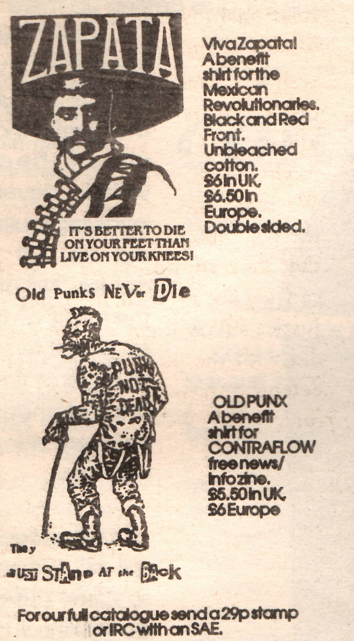
McLibel Campaign,
5 Caledonian Rd. LONDON N1.
Phone 071-837-7557


MIAOU MIAOU!

The "libellous' leaflet is available from 0602 585666 (12 quid for a 1000).

Spread The Truth !

BENEFIT T-SHIRTS


ZAPATA
IT'S BETTER TO DIE ON YOUR FEET THAN LIVE ON YOUR KNEES!
Old Punks NeVer Die
PUNX NOT DEAD
They just Stand at the Back

VivaZapata! A benefit shirt for the Mexican Revolutionaries. Black and Red Front. Unbleached cotton. £6 in UK, £6.50 in Europe. Double sided.

OLD PUNX A benefit shirt for CONTRAFLOW free news/ Infozine. £5.50 in UK, £6 Europe

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"PEACEMAKERS" LAY SIEGE TO CROSSMAGLEN

While the British Government talks about bringing peace to the north of Ireland, its armed wing continues to terrorise people. On 11th April, within days of a temporary IRA cease-fire which the British state ignored, thousands of British forces re-invaded the town of Crossmaglen in County Armagh outnumbering the town's population by 2 to 1. Land was confiscated from the Gaelic Athletics Association for military purposes, up to 20 helicopters have been in the sky at any one time and virtual martial law was created through the setting up of roadblocks on every road into town.

The army claimed that repairs were necessary to their base, damaged by IRA mortar attacks but the reality is a strengthening of the local repressiveapparatus with a 60ft watchtower being built to spy on local going's on.

Resisting The Army

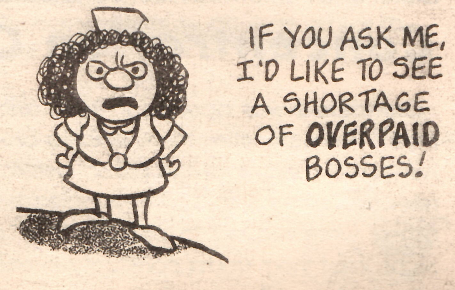
Following the armed invasion, a protest committee was established and major demos were held against the military presence, the biggest being on 14th May with a 1000 people marching in town. The previous day, teachers and pupils walked out of schools to join parents in a mass protest. Army checkpoints have been set up near traveller's sites and schools to use civilians as human shields to thwart possible IRA attacks.

V.A.T

From 1st April the government added 8% VAT on domestic fuel: this will go up to 17.5% from April 1995. This will obviously increase hardship and suffering for the most vulnerable sections of the working class - the poor, the old, families on low incomes, the disabled and the sick. Cold winters already kill 35,000 people a year in the UK - VAT on fuel may well add 10,000 more. Many of us already live in flats or houses that have damp and condensation, or are hard and expensive to heat. The poorest 20% of the population spends some 12% of their budget on fuel - while the rich spend less than 4.2%. Guess who'll be paying dearly for keeping warm.

VAT'S IT ALL ABOUT ?

VAT on fuel is the latest in a long line of cuts in benefits, wage freezes, rent and price rises. The rich and their servants in the government are determined to make us, not them, pay for the economic depression. Rich parasites like Robert Evans, British Gas chairman, 'earned' £435,000 last year - while 15,000 people had their gas cut off. It's surprising that businesses will be exempt from VAT - while we struggle to heat our homes and eat as well.


IF YOU ASK ME, I'D LIKE TO SEE A SHORTAGE OF OVERPAID BOSSES!

FUELING THE FIRES

It's time we stopped taking all this shit and started dishing it out. We should be prepared to make VAT on fuel unworkable in any way we can - non-payment, non-cooperation, physically preventing disconnections of gas and electricity, sharing our knowledge and skill of how to fiddle meters. In Scotland, there are already anti-VAT campaigns being set up along the same lines as the anti-poll tax groups , and actions are altready taking place: demos, public meetings, disrupting showrooms. Pensioners groups have also been very active in campaigning against VAT on fuel, as one of the groups most at risk. In London **Lambeth Unemployed Action Group** have been holding demos to encourage resistance to the fuel tax. On 28th May they held a mock funeral march in memory of all the people who will die from VAT on fuel. 40 people marched down Brixton Road with a huge coffin, playing funeral music! They then occupied both the Gas and Electricity showrooms, to the amusement and support of the folk queueing up inside. SPREAD IT. It's about time we ran our communities, so that heating AND EVERYTHING ELSE - housing, food, work, transport, childcare, THE LOT - are under our the control and run for our benefit, not for the profits of a rich minority.

•Groups fighting V.A.T on Fuel
L.U.A.G - c/o Unemployed Centre,
Thornton St, Brixton. SW9
The Unwaged Centre -
72 West Green Rd, Haringey, N16

SOME TIPS ON HOW TO AVOID PAYING...

∆ Avoid key or card meters if possible, as they can be more easily regulated.
∆ Avoid a meter reading - it means you'll get estimates, and can undercut your bill.
∆ If possible get your account put on or changed to a false name, it's easier to avoid paying if they don't know who you are. These days in London this is hard but not impossible.
∆ All safe ways to fiddle gas/leccy meters should be spread about to as many people as possible. Lets make a dent in their profits - the company bosses need to go on a diet !
∆ Meter-readers should be monitored and information on their movements should be made available so people know who they are and when to avoid them.
∆ Try and pay any bills as late as possible - it cuts the profit they get from having our money in the bank.
∆ Get together to stop people being cut off. If there's enough of us they just can't do it. It's always worth talking to the gas / LEB workers, as they can be sympathetic (especially after recent mass layoffs in both companies).
∆ Gas and Electricity showrooms should be occupied: lets take the fight to them.

T.A.T

Squatters and tenants in the London Borough of Hackney have called for the disbanding of the Tenancy Audit Team. The TAT was set up in 1991 in the aftermath of the exposure of massive corruption within Hackney Council's workforce, with council officers renting flats out, pocketing the rent and using heavies to evict squatters to provide more empties to rent out. But surprisingly (not!) instead of rooting out corruption, the TAT has turned on 75% of occupiers of Hackney Coucil properties -people in rent arrears,squatters and other 'unlawful' occupants. Yes, according to TAT enquiries, only 25% of Hackney Council homes are occupied by people who are 'meant to be there'. The TAT has mainly been targeting squatters, using combined raids with their own heavies and London Electricity, and sometimes Gas board and cops, to disconnect and evict squatters. Problem is of course, that even some people who were paying their bills - difficult when the LEB won't accept money from squatters - got evicted in this double whammy of oppression on the estates.

SPLAT !!!

Of course it's not only squatters who have found themselves thrown out, but having a licence or some other 'right' to be there is little use when you're out, as will be proved further when the Criminal Justice Bill comes in with its 'ex-parte' eviction court cases, meaning we're not invited but can attend another hearing once we've moved out. Thanks a lot !

With City Challenge gentrifying the south of the borough, trying to mold it into a subordinate area for serving the City, the Hackney Tenancy Audit Team is yet another attempt to disorganise working class communities who've seen that the council can't do the business and have started allocating the housing themselves. While the council flogs off homes to private buyers, and even more to semi-privatised Housing Associations, its us who are being forced to pay the price. Ken Ostler and Dome Kanareck, leaders of the TAT, are scum - but what else are 5th floor balconies for ? Splat em !

WHY AM I EMPTY?

Ken Ostler of the Tenancy Audit Team

* * * ELECTION SPECIAL! * * *

On euro-election day the International Squatters Party picked up four seats - in a skip near Newington Green. They also got a door that makes a very nice kitchen table and a few unidentifiable objects.

Criminal Justice Bill...

IT'S CRIMINAL !

The Criminal Justice and Public Order Bill being talked through the British Parliament represents one of the most serious increases in the legal powers of the state for a long time. In previous *Contraflow's* we've covered some of the clauses in the Bill - abolition of the " right to silence" in police stations, measures against squatters, ravers, 'new age travellers', and other partygoers, more prisons, tougher sentences, more police powers, heavier repression in prisons, DNA fingerprinting for all suspects, new 'terrorism' offences. Amendments to the Bill make it even more bad news - eg the power to evict squatters using 'reasonable force'. The Bill comes down to the criminalisation of more of our lives, the provisions to arrest, convict and jail us easier, and the institutions to stick us in.

What about opposition to the Criminal Justice Bill though ? How effective is the organised campaigning against the bill ? Is there any chance of stopping it becoming law ?

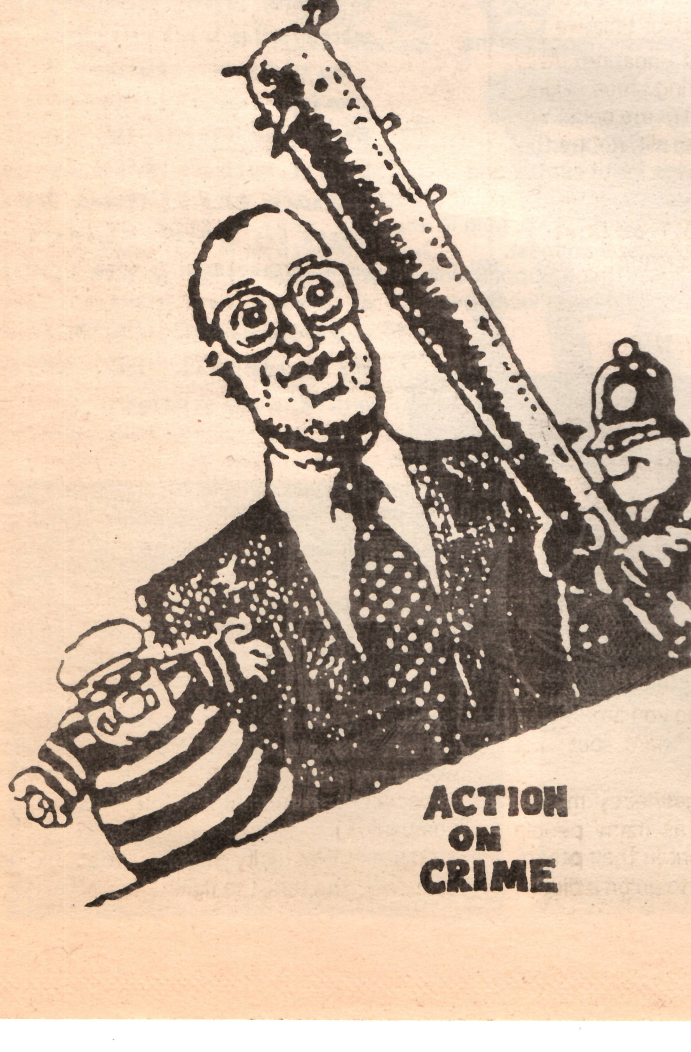
Much of the work being done against the Bill has come from the 'marginalised communities' attacked specifically in certain clauses - travellers, festival-goers and ravers, squatters; the Advance Party (rave organisers), SQUASH (squatters groups), and the Freedom Network (dominated by Green Party types) .

Also there have been some noises from 'civil rights' organisations like Liberty and Charter 88. In their own way some of the actions against the bill have been very successful - a massive demo of some 20,000 in central London on May 1st has been the biggest.

POLICE
HÉ! HÉ!

AT THE EDGE

But the stark reality is that the anti-Criminal Justice Bill campaign has failed to impact on a lot of people. Partly this is due to the effective news blackout , standard media practice on such campaigns, until there's some violence, when they start screaming. The same was true of the anti-poll tax movement, though, and that grew of it's own momentum. Despite the fact that anti-squatting clauses, will no doubt be used to evict tenants as well; that increased powers for the cops, more prisons etc will always be bad signs for many working class people in our daily lives, and so on. And by working class we don't just mean flat cap stereotypes, we mean all of us who have little or no say in the way our profit-geared society is run - dole scroungers, single mothers, pensioners, travellers, as well as those of us with jobs. All of us whose only only stake in this society is to work or survive as best we can, while the rich enjoy the wealth.



Partly tactically though, the oppposition propaganda has been limited to 'marginalised communities'. Also, to some extent, the state has managed to effectively criminalise many of us already. All the media propaganda about youth crime, the crime wave, Britain under siege, squatters stealing homes, people dying at raves, etc has fallen on fertile ground. Many working class people DO want 'a tougher line on crime' - because if you look around it is blighting our lives, its a daily problem we have to face: people ripping each other off, attacking each other, rape, drug-related violence, racist abuse.... People want someone to blame for the misery of a lot of their lives, and the voice of the state and the middle class saying 'Blame the criminal underclass, the weirdos, the immigrants, single parents, young people," are louder and have more resources than us pointing out the criminals in charge of this society, controlling our lives. Even if knowing the system is to blame, we still have to get on with our lives, threatened by burglaries, rape, abusive neighbours or whatever. The so-called protection the state offers us - calling the cops, going to court etc - pit us against each other and isolate us even more.

The Criminal Justice Bill has been securely grounded on years of propaganda, on the fear that "law-abiding people are under siege". The press and the government have joyfully widened the gap that exists between the hardworking classes and 'drop-out' / 'criminal' cultures, exploiting a certain contempt for each other's lifestyles that was there already. On top of this the liberal 'rights lobby'- greens, Liberty etc, are quite rightly regarded as out of touch with the reality of daily life in many areas. Frightening but true there is a feeling of being willing to give up 'freedoms' for an improvement in the state of life around them and less chance of being robbed. That people saying this don't see the robbery of our whole lives under capitalism says alot about the lack of a serious and effective revolutionary movement in this country.

THERE AIN'T NO JUSTICE...

In our hearts alot of working class people know that all the 'rights' we have are fragile illusions - here today gone tomorrow. We have no rights that we haven't forced out of the ruling class over the last 600 years under threat of violence, but that can't be taken away by them when we fail to resist. The threat of our rising to destroy them has led the bosses to create a system that is powerful and effective at keeping us down or well off, happy or frustrated, but above all DIVIDED. Our rulers are still in control at the end of the day, no matter what rights we have.

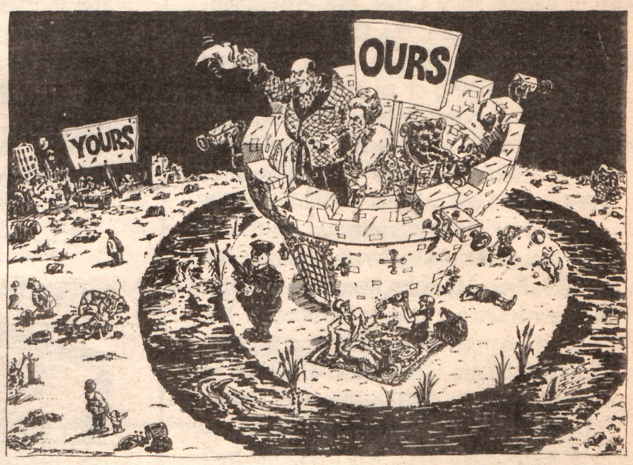
Justice, for which we often fight, when we struggle against this misery or that oppression, has always been the property of the rich. From summary execution in feudal days, to courts martial and church courts, to the modern jury system, we have never had much power over it. OK we have juries, but they are restricted, controlled, middle class, no crims allowed. Yeah, sometimes we get off, but the system remains, still in control, out of our hands. And it's always been for us, not them - our robberies and murders are crimes punishable by death or jail - theirs are legal, honourable; war and business, pillars of society. At its heart their justice is simply their power to exploit us.

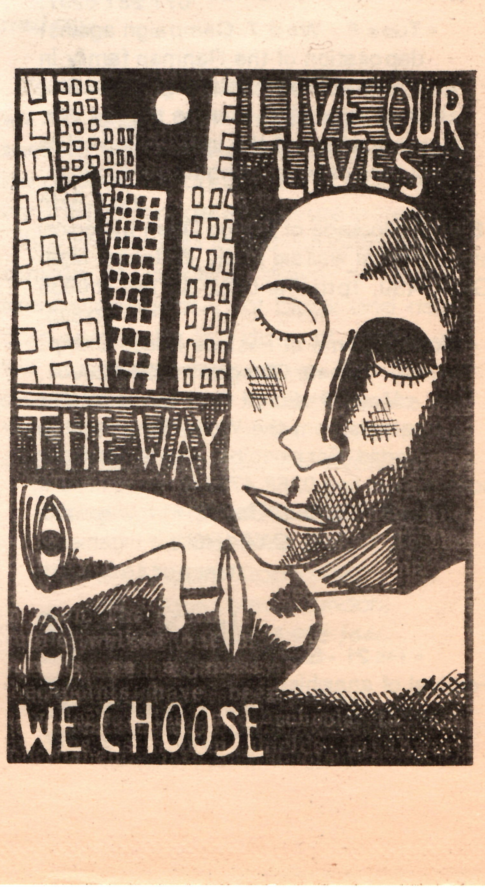
Coming back to the Criminal Justice Bill - how are we going to stop it ? Demanding justice is only a stopgap. We should never stop fighting for better daily existence in the present, we have to, to survive. But in my mind, the Greens, Liberty etc are a part of the established order - liberal and radical, but fighting for a more equal exploitation. I'm sick of being exploited, pushed around, arrested; I want an end to it, whether its by fascist cops or nice democratic cops. A sign of the marginalising of the opposition to the Bill has been the almost total lack of questioning the increases in prisons, the DNA testing, the new 'terrorist' offences, or any attempt to broaden out beyond the narrow confines of the 'alternative' scene or the parliamentary scene

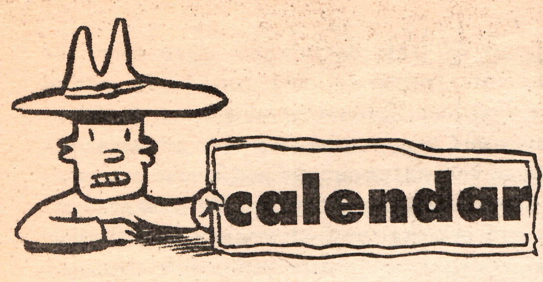
...JUST US

Opposition to the Criminal Justice Bill needs to break out of the margins. In times past campaigns against new repressive laws have foundered when the Bill became law. Partly some liberals said, we can't break the law now its in; partly people had little or no strategy for ongoing resistance.

With the incoming bill, it is vital to oppose it before it comes in, but the real fight begins when we start to face it day to day, like we already face all the other repressive laws brought in against us. This doesn't just mean demos at copshops, deliberate trespasses, and voluntarily getting arrested as the Freedom Network is proposing. It means ongoing resistance and organisation. It means getting across the fact that crime and justice are defined by the powerful, that the whole capitalist system is criminal. We need to create our own ideas and practical methods for not only dealing with anti-social and terrorising acts within our class and communities, but identifying the real criminals at the top. It also means promoting understanding of different ways of living, cultural differences, bridging the gap between isolated groups, between law-abiding and law-breaking. Not tolerance but living together, genuine unity of differing viewpoints. It means finding and spreading ways of taking the resources and spaces we need, including using what they call crime - better ways of getting away with dole fraud, insurance scams, ways to fiddle gas and electric, shoplifting, free travel, defending social spaces - seizing back part of what should belong to us anyway. Crime can be a weapon in our hands in the daily fight for existence - carried out collectively it can be a beginning towards a movement for class control. We need to info to allow people to stay out of the hands of the cops, so we don't get caught or sent down: plus community defence, helping people nicked in resistance and survival, getting them off, supporting them inside. We need to create ways of supporting people bringing up kids, communal methods of helping people in dire need and under emotional stress - people we now abandon to the state. Supporting people as a community has to help towards turning any violence and hate away from us, against the rich and their lackeys..... Ultimately it means taking over our areas and kicking out the cops, and banding areas together to take over the whole world - creating the seeds of revolution. It can and will be hard work, but it has its roots in the best elements of working class self-organisation and in 1000s of daily actions going on around us every day. Its not about sacrificing ourselves for some abstract 'community' - it's about us, our needs and desires, creating new communities, new relationships: changing our lives, taking back the whole wealth of the world for ourselves. It can and should be fun as well - a carnival of love and rage. What the 'rights lobby' don't and never will admit is - ITS WAR; it always was and always will be till the oppressed take power. Concessions might be won but we need to be standing up and saying, " We want the Lot' we'll take this now but we'll be back for the rest." Repression is part of the war. The capitalists know that they are hitting us hard and will carry on, whenever they can get away with it. There's little doubt that the Criminal Justice Bill will get in. We need to make it unworkable, as we did with the poll tax. Because this is not just the only way to defend ourselves and each other but also holds the potential for a NEW WORLD - one beyond our wildest dreams.







calendar

in JULY

- **Mon 11.** Demo against arms sales to Indonesia: 11am at Buckingham Gate, SW1, for march to MOD and Die-in. Contact NVRN (see 8-10).
- **Tues 12.** 'The Glorious Twelfth', when rich scum everywhere go out and shoot things. Ah, the time will come....
- **Tues 12.** Anti-World Bank (leading international capitalist mafia) dayschool with speakers from Chile, the Phillipines. 12 noon, Cooltan, the Old Dole House, Coldharbour Lane, Brixton, SW9. Will lead up to a planning of an anti-World Bank action in London on the following day, which is the 50th anniversary of the World Bank. Tel 0258 473476 for info.
- **Wed 13.** Folk cabaret - benefit for No M11 Link Road Campaign, at Chats Palace, Brooksby Walk, London, E8.
- **Wed 13.** Free Malcolm Kennedy, Justice for Patrick Quinn, public meeting, 7.30, Hammersmith Town Hall, King St, W6.
- **Thurs 14.** Class War public meeting, to coincide with the SWP's Marxism Today bash, the SWP have been invited to debate with Class War, will they turn up? 7.30pm, Friends Meeting House, Euston Rd. N1.
- **Wed 20.** Lobby of Hackney Council Housing Committee against attacks on squatters and the Criminal Justice Bill. 7pm, Hackney Town Hall, Mare St, E8.
- **Fri 29.** Critical Mass - radical bike demo against Carmageddon. 5.45pm, Meet at NFT piazza Waterloo, SE1. Every month !!
- **Sat 30.** *You Can't Kill the Spirit* - Urban Free Festival, Fordham Park, Deptford, London SE8.

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in AUGUST

- **Fri 5 - Sun 7.** Torpedo Town Free Festival, somewhere on the Hampshire and Sussex borders - follow the cops ?
- **Sat 6.** National Anti-Hunting Demo, 12 noon, at the Reformers Tree, Hyde Park,
- **Sat 6 - Sun 7.** Hackney Lesbian Strength and Gay Pride Festival, Clissold Park, Stoke Newington, London, N16.
- **Wed 10.** Prisoners Justice Day demo, in solidarity with women prisoners. Holloway Prison, Parkhurst Road, London, N7, 4.30pm
- **Sat 13.** 25th anniversary of British troops going onto the streets of Northern Ireland. Demo in London. Assemble Kennington Park, (Oval tube) at 12 noon.
- **Fri 26.** Critical Mass - see 29 July.

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in SEPTEMBER

- **Sat 3 -Sun 11.** Campaign Against the Arms Trade week of action. Contact CAAT, 071 281 0297.
- **Tues 6 - Wed 7.** Campaign against deportation of the Rahman family in Manchester. Public meeting on the 6th, then all night vigil, then on the the **7th**, there's a picket of the immigration office where their case is being heard. Contact: via CARF
- **Sat 10** Blockade of Porton Down biological and chemical warfare plant, Wiltshire. Main Gate, A30, 1pm. Tel 0722 327146 or 0935 21595.
- **Mon 19.** Demo at Faslane Peace Camp, near Glasgow. 0436 820901.
- **Mon 26** - Sun 2 Oct. Top capitalist bastards from the World Bank meet in Madrid. For possible anti-World Bank actions here ring 0258 473476 or organise it yourself. *Eartharc, Box E, 111 Magdalen Rd, Oxford, OX4 1RQ* are organising transport to Madrid.

in OCTOBER

- **Fri 21 - Sun 30.** Anarchy In the UK Festival of anarchism in London. Numerous events round London. Contact *PO Box 1096, Bristol, BS99 1BW.*

BUILD THE GUARD'S VAN !!

Fare Dodgers Liberation Front in the area...

🙂 I knew the FDLF was 'in the area' when a crackly and of course completely inaudible announcement came over the air at Brixton tube:

"Due to a Ticket Inspector under a train at Stockwell, all services to Brixton are delayed til further notice."

I started the interview:

🙂: What can the average fare dodging punter do then?

🚂 Simple - resist much and pay little. If by some fluke you've got a ticket, make the inspectors wait, make em sweat, they don't like confrontation either. Make a speech, search all your pockets - point out how well paid they are compared with the workers who actually run the tube. Its amazing to watch the gleeometer on yer average carriage going off the scale.

🙂: And what if you didn't fluke a ticket?

🚃: er .. that's a bit harder eh? Hopefully someone is winding the inspectors on ... er ... up the line.

🙂: Serves em right for taking away station staff. More fare free zones eh?.

🚂 🚃 *General gaffawing*

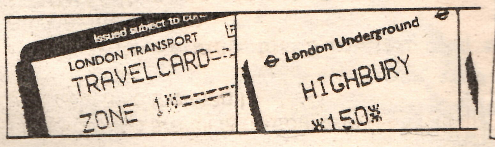
🚃: Yeah well that's true up to a point... But in fact it was easier to fare dodge when there were more station staff. We got a great letter from a tube worker - she said that most of them didn't give a fuck about fare dodging and a lot of them used to regularly stick "excess fares" in their pockets - good luck to 'em we say! But in the last few years management have been pretty successful at intimidating them into being **Good Workers**. That's bad for them and bad for us. So it's not only losing fare free zones but also creating more zones for sexual and racial harrassment.

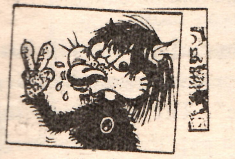
🚂: Yeah - we want station staff who don't give a fuck about collecting tickets but who do care about people's safety.

🙂: What's the big picture then?

🚂: The circulation of capital is what this whole fare dodging struggle is about.

From 3 April the inspector will want to see one of the following:





Fare Dodgers
Liberation Front
Box F.D.L.F
c/o 121 Railton Rd,
London SE24

🙂: No seriously

🚃: Yeah seriously. The law says you don't have to pay on the spot, they can't arrest you and they can't even make you show ID when you give them an address. But 200 feet under the River with 2 big inspectors on yer tail - its a bit harder. In practice they give you a lot of hassle if you won't give them an address. And they seem to have some sort of data base of addresses that they can access by radio. We've heard this is mostly based on the electoral register - but not just that. And it's updated regularly. The best bet is to give them a real name and address - preferably the name of your boss. So long as you haven't been done for dodging in that name before. But even if you do flip out and give them your real name... what's the problem? All they do is send begging letters - just like the poll tax eh?

🙂: And if you do get cornered?

🚃: Well its 'only' a tenner - less than 4 days free travel. Odds are that you're going to win. And that's before you start on all the excuses.

🚂: Sure are a lot of ticket machines with gum in them these days. The bosses want to get their proles to work ...

🙂: But not to raves?

🚃: Fuck yeah - ever wondered why the Night buses were so shit. But we want to take the tube so that we can circulate, socialise, organise and fuck shit up. ... But we don't run the trains only use them.

🚂: Its up to the tube workers really We can help picket, and generally trash things when necessary, but its their unity against job losses and their management - including tube union boss Jimmy [🐀] Knapp - that'll make the difference.

🚃: They've got a history of struggle too - in '89 unofficial action bought the system to a halt. Its a matter of self organisation by them - and solidarity from us.

🙂: Ok. Any final words?

🚂: Write to us to get a bundle of our brilliant leaflet, " *A few things you ought to know about the new penalty fares*", Chuck 'em around the next time you travel on the tube.

🚃: Yeah - don't panic - and don't pay - thousands of fare dodgers can't be wrong! Happy fare dodging and build the guards van!

SOLIDARITY WITH SPANISH ANTI-MILITARISTS

For over five years the INSUMISION campaign has been fighting to end compulsory military service in Spain. At least ten thousand people have refused to serve in the army or do the "social service" (the supposed alternative if you refuse to go in the army, a bit like a nightmare version of community service) which is used by the state to replace public service jobs. Hundreds of them have been taken to court and sentenced to between one year and twenty-eight months in jail. These young people are called INSUMISOS. At this moment there are 200 prisoners for this cause and 75 people are in hiding. The government and especially the justice minister face a situation they don't know how to deal with. Now is the time for an international campaign in support of the Insumisos and against the Spanish state which is forcing its youth into the army.

Anti-militarists in Spain are asking for solidarity actions at spanish embassies and consulates, such as demos, graffiti or petitions demanding an amnesty for the insumisos in prison or on the run, an end to trials of anti-militarists, and the permanent ending of compulsory military and social service. Anyone fancy organising a demo here ?

Write and protest to :
Juan Alberto Belloch, Justice Minister,
C/San Bernardo 47, 28071.- Madrid, Spain.

PROTESTORS GET FREE RIDE DOWNTOWN AT STALEY DEMO

48 people including members of the clergy, spouses and Staley Workers Solidarity Committees folk from Chicago, Indianapols, Springfield, St Louis and Champaign were nicked by the cops at the June 4th solidarity sit-down, as wave after wave of supporters entered the Decatur plant to protest the continuing lock-out by the A.E Staley company. Trucks and scabs were stopped from entering for over three hours and the Boulevard El Dorado, outside the plant entrance was also blocked as 500 UPIU/AIW 7837 Union members surrounded the gates. Those nicked have been charged variously with "mob action, obstructing the police and trespass".

The demo was part of a spring offensive against the company with a massive demo planned for 25th June to mark one year of the lock-out.

A.E Staley is part of the Tate group of companies, a London based concern. Solidarity actions on behalf of the workers needed. Anyone want to help out ?.

TEAMSTER AND BUTTHEAD

Class war U.S union style erupted on the picket lines in North Reading, Massachusetts on April 11, when police arrested 7 Teamsters (union) leaders as nearly 200 strikers clashed with over 50 riot cops outside the gates of Roadway Express, one of the companies hit by a strike during a National Teamsters walkout. The strikers were trying to stop a scab truck when the badgeless cops rioted, using attack dogs on the crowd and beating a union member who was video-ing the cops assault.

Over 80,000 Teamsters were on strike against national freight hauling outfits over the issues of downsizing, layoffs, part-timing and subcontracting to non-union firms.

In January, Alaskan flight attendents negotiated settlement in a three year struggle for contract. Using a technique dubbed by the workers as C.H.A.O.S (Create Havoc Around Our System), pressure was put on management through a series of rotating work slowdowns and strikes that kept Air Alaska off guard and undermined the airlines reliability with passengers.

contacts

these groups are all fairly cool and are actually doing stuff that we think is going somewhere. Get involved and help hold the map !

- **Advisory Service for Squatters,** 2 St Pauls Rd, N1. 071 359 8814. Mon-Fri, 2-6pm.useful practical advice, the law etc.
- **SQUASH,** same address as above, tel 071 226 8938. Squatters campaigning against changes in the law.and linked to other anti-Criminal Justice Bill campaigning groups. Get their mag *SQUALL* !
- **121 Centre,** 121 Railton Rd, Brixton, London, SE24. 071 274 6655. Squatted anarchist space: bookshop, meetings, parties, squatting aid, free info. Open 1-5 Wed-Sat, but ring to check.
- **56a Info Shop**, 56 Crampton St, London SE17. Squatted radical bookstore and more. Open Mon,Thurs,Fri, 3-7pm. Action, books, mags, records, posters and cool reading space full of current and obscure @ mags and booklets.
- **London Class War, PO Box 467, London, E8 3QF.** Active rousing revolutionary group, help to produce the populist 'Class War' paper but also do local work too. Not amazing but better than most.
- **Colin Roach Centre** 10A Bradbury St, London, N16. Space uniting Hackney Trade Union Support Unit, squatters, Hackney Community Defence Campaign, Lesbian/Gay festival organisers, and other local revos and activists.

publications... •CHECK 'EM OUT..

Community re-Charge, 32 Lancaster Rd, London W11 (free/sae)
Local North Kensington newsletter full of fun and what's going on.

The Penguin, PO Box 2401, London N8 9LR (free/sae)
Paper of Hornsey + Wood Green Solidarity Group. Packed with news.

Aufheben, c/o Prior Hse, Tilbury Place, Brighton BN2 2GY (£2/sae)
Lots of excellent analysis and reports on the 'road monster' and M11 struggle, delving where others fear to tread.

CARF, BM BOX 8784, London WC1N 3XX (80p + stamp)
The usual excellent round up of organising against racism and fascism.

The Roadbreaker, Arch 211, Grove Green Rd, London E11 4AJ (25p/sae)
The mag for news of direct action against roadbuilding in London and elsewhere, although too fluffy for our tastes.

Bike Not, 56a Infoshop, 56 Crampton St, London SE17 (30p/sae)
Bike mag for cycle terrorists inc. Critical Mass info and bicycle anarchy, dudes !

Radical Chains, BM Radical Chains, London WC1N 3XX (1.50/sae)
Beyond the sectarianism of the Left, not for meaningless unity but for theoretical understanding and coherence. (Does this review make any sense ?)

Counter Information, Pigeonhole C.I. 11 Forth St, Edinburgh EH1 (free/sae)
International news of action and resistance against the spitty capitalist way of life.

Bad Attitude, 121 Railton Rd, London SE24 (£1/SAE)
Radical women's paper with international perspective and great news coverage.